



Jefferson Memorial Forest

11311 Mitchell Hill Road
PO Box 467
Fairdale, KY
40118

502/368-5404

www.memorialforest.com

www.metro-parks.org

forest@louisvilleky.gov

parks@louisvilleky.gov

Welcome Center

Monday-Saturday
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sunday/Holidays
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Welcome Center
is your destination
for maps, gift items,
program reservations,
camping reservations,
permits and
Forest information.

Directions

From I-65 south, take the
Gene Snyder Freeway (I-265)
west and exit at New Cut Road.
Turn left, go about one mile,
and turn right onto
Mitchell Hill Road.
Follow the signs to the Forest.

Mission Statement

The mission of
Louisville Metro Parks
is to create
a City of Parks
and enhance the
quality of life for
citizens of Louisville Metro
by maintaining and acquiring
attractive, vibrant parks
and offering safe, diverse
recreation programs, and
protecting these lands
and resources for
future generations.

What's Going on at the Forest?

Hey, great question and thanks for asking! Regular readers of our newsletter will recall that the Forest completed a far reaching master plan a few years ago. That plan provides the general blueprint for future improvements over the foreseeable future. We'd love to share a few aspects of the plan that are moving forward in support of the Forest's mission as an educator and outdoor learning lab; a nature sanctuary; and as a recreation amenity (among other roles, of course).

The white elephant in the room so to speak (really another animal altogether) is the addition this past July of the new Go Ape! treetop adventure course near the Welcome Center. To say we are excited is an understatement as this course is more than just an exhilarating new recreational amenity at the Forest – it is a key strategic attraction which will serve to catalyze implementation of the Forest master plan by bringing many new and diverse visitors to Fairdale, the Forest, South Points Scenic Area, and Louisville as a whole. We are thrilled that these new visitors are joining long-time friends of the Forest to appreciate and take advantage of all that the Forest has to offer.

While the Go Ape! course is the most visible development, we are excited to inform about others. First, we'd like to formally announce the addition of 54 acres to the Forest near Keys Ferry Road to complete purchase of the most critical acreage necessary for future development of the Forest's proposed new environmental education facilities. Forest staff is working to improve the quality of habitat within the newly acquired properties to begin to create wonderful outdoor classroom space for future experiential programming. To that end, our staff and volunteers are removing historic debris and invasive species and working in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, which is allocating approximately \$2 million to restore

three miles of Wolf Run Creek and its tributaries by the end of 2017. All of this means that over the next couple of years we will be in position to focus on the fundraising necessary to fully implement this part of the Forest's master plan.

Second, we are pleased to announce that Luckett & Farley, along with their sub-consultants including Human Nature, Inc., has been selected to refine the general concept plans for the Tom Wallace Recreation Area across from the Forest's Welcome Center on Mitchell Hill Road. Tom Wallace Recreation Area is the oldest part of Jefferson Memorial Forest and due to its heavy use and lack of adequate amenities is clearly in need of significant upgrades to meet the needs of today's users. The current Forest Master plan made very general recommendations for improving this section of the Forest and the current effort will, with public input, provide the level of detail and cost estimation that can then be translated into action. If you don't already receive our newsletter via e-mail, we encourage you to contact the Welcome Center and provide your e-mail address so we may make sure you are notified of the public meetings that will be scheduled as part of the project.

Those are just a few of the highlights to share. There's more inside, so please turn the page...

Bennett Knox, Parks Administrator





NOTES FROM WILDERNESS LOUISVILLE, INC.

Wilderness Louisville is the 501c3 non-profit supporting Jefferson Memorial Forest and the Metro Parks' Natural Areas Division. The group envisions that Louisville's natural areas are a world-class destination for all citizens and visitors to enjoy. To realize this vision, Wilderness Louisville's mission is to...

strengthen natural areas including Jefferson Memorial Forest by creating, restoring and stewarding these assets to promote economic development, educate and unite a diverse community of families, volunteers and advocates, and provide equitable opportunities for all citizens and visitors to experience nature.

Program Shelter Campaign Update

With the support of many of you via this past fall's crowd-funding campaign and through donations at the 2014 Mayor's Fall Hike and Outdoor Adventure, Wilderness Louisville has nearly completed its fundraising for construction of two new program shelters in the Forest's current program area. The goal of this project is to increase the programming capacity of the Forest by allowing it to serve multiple groups at one time. It will also provide shelter for school children during inclement weather and thus decrease canceled programs. All of this will help the Forest continue to be a leading provider of environmental education in the community.

We would like to acknowledge valuable contributions from local corporations. This includes a significant in-kind donation of 60 yards of concrete from Irving Materials, Inc. and discounts on supplies and labor from Lowes on Dixie Highway and Spencer Concrete.

For its part, Metro Parks has partnered with YouthBuild Louisville whose crews of hardworking young adults have begun implementing construction. We anticipate that construction will be completed by the end of this year and ready for programming in the spring of 2016.

That said, Wilderness Louisville still needs your support to complete the project. Completion of final trim and window treatments for the shelters is yet to be funded and Wilderness Louisville is seeking to do

so through a breakfast fundraiser during the 2015 Mayor's Fall Hike on Saturday, October 17th starting at 9:00 a.m.



Shelter #2 construction begins...



Getting closer on Shelter #1



YouthBuild Louisville raising the wall!



VOLUNTEER NEWS

Applause, Applause!

Heartfelt thanks to the following groups for donating their time and service to the Natural Areas Division, helping us keep open spaces safe and beautiful places for the community.

Walden High School • 40 students and teachers spent 120 man-hours mulching the path around Tom Wallace Lake, to avoid erosion from heavy use.

United Parcel Services (UPS) • 18 employees helped close and restore old trail in the Paul Yost area, donating 54 man-hours to the effort.

eBay Enterprises • 10 employees removed litter on the Louisville Loop from Riverside to Riverview Park, donating 40 man-hours of service.

Mercy Academy • 150 high school students donated 300 hours of service to meet their service learning requirement by planting new shrubs, mulching, removing invasives and painting in our Environment Education area.

Humana • 7 employees spent 3 hours one afternoon assisting with the cleanup of newly acquired property, donating a total of 21 hours.

General Electric • Three interns spend two hours helping remove flood litter on a section of the Louisville Loop downtown for a total of 6 donated hours.

Metro Corrections • The spring graduating class of 26 new Corrections officers completed 78 man-hours of service cleaning the Beargrass Creek Greenway of litter.

Brian Kehne • An Eagle Scout from Troop 336, Brian performed funding raising and donation gathering for materials and supervised fellow scouts in the building of a trail bridge in Waverly Park. He and his Troop dedicated 173 hours to this project.

County Attorney's Office • Over 40 volunteers from the Attorney Office Diversion program joined a Land Steward project day to assist in planting over 2,000 wildflower plugs in Waverly Park to start a butterfly field. The day totaled 177.8 volunteer hours!

Humana Pharmacy IT Department • This group of 10 employees spent two hours (20 man-hours) removed litter on the lower trail of the Louisville Loop near 10th Street.

County Attorney's Office • This group returned with 33 volunteers to remove litter on the Louisville Loop, between 10th Street and Lannan Park. They removed an entire truckload of trash and donated a total of 99 man-hours.

Skills USA • The annual conference sent 36 young adults to Caperton Swamp for 72 hours of service. The group spread wood chip mulch on the trail from the park entrance to the pond.

Whose name is missing? YOURS! Contact our Volunteer Coordinator to schedule a project day for your group today! Sherry.Wright@louisvilleky.gov or 502.380.1753

New Volunteer Opportunity!

Volunteers now have a new way to serve: by taking our show on the road! Several long-term volunteers have been training to represent the Forest and Natural Areas Division while staffing information booths. These dedicated individuals are learning a bit of everything, from Forest programs, amenities and long-term plans, to Louisville Loop, the Wilderness Louisville Friends group and the Shawnee Outdoor Learning Initiative. As you can see by their smiling faces, they're enjoying sharing their new-found knowledge with the public.

The next time you're at an event and see our booth, stop by and say hello. Better yet, invite us to your next event! We'll be there with our smiles on.

(Left to right) Rebecca, Eric and Sara enjoy booth training.



Does your group have what it takes to make a difference in a Natural Areas park? Give us a call! We would love to coordinate a volunteer event especially for you. We have projects suitable for single-day service projects as well as Eagle Scouts. If you need a project, contact Volunteer Coordinator Sherry Wright at 502/380-1753 or at sherry.wright@louisvilleky.gov.



FOREST SUMMER CAMP

A Spectacular Summer for Camp

2015 provided another busy summer full of learning, fun, adventure, wonder, and happy memories for many kids. 267 campers from age 5-17 got to experience Jefferson Memorial Forest! JMF program staff brought back Animal Adventures, Forest Explorers, Eco Extreme, Fairies, Trolls, and Gnomes, Nature Camp at Locust Grove, and two sessions each of Adventure Camp and Water Wonders. The different sessions allowed kids to explore with a focused interest along with other children their age. Some hits of the summer included classic JMF activities like shelter-building and paint rocks, as well as field trips to Otter Creek and Frazier History Museum.

For the second year, JMF provided week-long adventure-based camps to underserved youth in the community. Several Metro Parks

and Recreation Community Centers as well as Cabbage Patch Settlement House, the Chestnut St. YMCA, Family Scholar House, and returning partner Americana Community Center took advantage of the opportunity for teens to try archery, fishing, canoeing, and hiking; indoor rock climbing at Rock Gem; as well as to challenge themselves on the ropes course at Louisville Mega Cavern. Weekly field trips to Mammoth Cave National Park were certainly the highlight of the summer!

Many thanks to program staff, Matt, Christa, Ryan, and Mike; returning summer camp staff Alyssa and Georgia; new seasonals Ryan, David, Nathaniel, Emily, and Christy; and camp volunteers Hannah and Jaime for their very hard work this summer making these programs so successful! Also thanks to our partners and volunteers.





THE Mayor's Fall Hike AND Outdoor Adventure

PRESENTED BY
**QUEST
OUTDOORS**
Saturday, October 17
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

FEATURING THE
Wilderness Louisville 5K
at 9 a.m.

Jefferson Memorial Forest

12304 Holsclaw Hill Rd
502/368-5404 • memorialforest.com

Sponsored by



Grill & Chill



METRO PARKS
AND RECREATION



OFFICE FOR
SPECIAL EVENTS
Office of the Mayor

Runners get a 25%
discount Saturday
on the Go Ape! course

Breakfast items and coffee
available for purchase.
Proceeds help build shelters
for school field trips.



PUBLIC PROGRAM CALENDAR: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

The Forest offers programs for all ages. For more information visit our website at memorialforest.com or call the Welcome Center at 502/368-5404. Our staff will be happy to help make reservations, give directions to the program location, or provide a complete schedule of programs throughout the year. For all programs, please wear close-toed walking shoes and dress for the weather.

Reservations are required in advance. The Forest reserves the right to cancel, change or postpone program dates and venues, due to insufficient registration, conditions or weather. In such cases rain checks will be provided.

October

3RD ANNUAL URBAN WILDERNESS CANOE ADVENTURES

Shawnee Park, Friday, October 2 or Riverview Park, Saturday, October 3 10-4:30.

This free event is designed for individuals and families who are new to canoeing to experience the water in safe and stable voyageur canoes which hold 10 to 15 people. All safety equipment and trained staff are provided. The event is open to anyone ages 3 and older. Wear comfortable outdoor clothing that can get wet; no flip flops please.

LAND STEWARD VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAYS

Wednesdays, October 7, 14, 21 and 28, 9 am – Noon

Saturday, September 3, 9 am - Noon

Join our Land Steward team for one day or as an ongoing volunteer. Participants aid in land management duties such as identifying and removing invasive plant species, identify and protect sensitive areas, seed collection, planting, gardening and watering. Each project day has a different task, determined by weather and need, and announced the week of the event. Suitable for ages 14 and up; must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Sherry.Wright@louisvilleky.gov for additional information.

LEARN FROM HISTORY, PUBLIC PROGRAM

October 10th, 9am – 12 pm

Chop, cut, and scape. What stones were used, where are they found and how were they made into effective tools in our region? Participants will also view a private collection of artifacts on loan from the William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology

of the University of Kentucky.

Due to the hands-on nature of this program minimum age is 10, and each event is limited to 16 participants max. Fee \$15/ person. Pre-registration is required through the Jefferson Memorial Forest Welcome Center at 502-368-5404. Program meets in the Horine Section of Jefferson Memorial Forest.

TRAIL TEAM VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAY

Sat., October 10, 9 am – Noon at Jefferson Memorial Forest

Sat., October 17, 9 am – Noon at Waverly Park

Join our Trail Team volunteers as a single day helper or a long-term volunteer to work on our 36 miles of trail in the Forest and Waverly Park. Each project day will have a different task, assigned according to weather and greatest need. Suitable for ages 14 and up; must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Sherry.Wright@louisvilleky.gov for additional information.

MAYOR'S HEALTHY HOMETOWN FALL HIKE

Saturday, October 17, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Join Mayor Greg Fischer for a family-friendly fall exploration of Jefferson Memorial Forest. The event is held near the Forest's Environmental Education Center and offers a wide variety of activities showcasing all the Forest has to offer. Forest staff and volunteers introduce visitors to our native plant gardens and animal exhibits. Activities for children are provided in the Nature Explore area. Climb the 52-ft Alpine Tower, try your hand at archery, and fish on Mitchell Hill Lake. Free pumpkins and pumpkin decorating, hay rides and Shack in the Back BBQ will provide breakfast and lunch items available for purchase. A portion of food sales go to benefit the Forest. Meets at the Horine

Reservation. Event is FREE.

FREE GUIDED NIGHT HIKE – RED TRAIL & CEMETERY ROAD

Saturday, October 31, 7:30 pm

This 2.0 mile, easy hike will briefly be on the Red Trail before finishing on a gravel road. Visit the Horine family cemetery and hear their story. After, warm up around a fire and enjoy a s'more. Meets in the Horine Reservation area parking lot.

November

LAND STEWARD VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAYS

Wednesdays, November 4, 11, 18 and 25, 9 am – Noon

Saturday, November 7, 9 am - Noon

Join our Land Steward team for one day or as an ongoing volunteer. Participants aid in land management duties such as identifying and removing invasive plant species, identify and protect sensitive areas, seed collection, planting, gardening and watering. Each project day has a different task, determined by weather and need, and announced the week of the event. Suitable for ages 14 and up; must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Sherry.Wright@louisvilleky.gov for additional information.

FIRE STARTING AND COOKING

November 7th, 9am ñ 12pm

Explore various forms of pre-historic and historic ignition sources, search for adequate fuel and understand how fire was utilized for everyday needs. Come ready to learn from frustration, fire-making is not easy! Also come hungry as we will be preparing foods over an open fire.

The focus of Learn from History events is to experience various aspects of the lives of the first indigenous people of Kentucky.



Through active involvement participants will build, plant, make, and cook using actual materials and processes. Participants must come ready to learn not only from success, but also from failure. Due to the hands-on nature of this program minimum age is 10, and each event is limited to 16 participants max. Fee \$15/ person. Pre-registration is required through the Jefferson Memorial Forest Welcome Center at 502-368-5404

OUTDOOR SKILLS – ORIENTEERING I

Saturday, November 14, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Map and landscape reading are skills every outdoor person needs to possess. This program equips participants with the skills necessary to read and interpret topographic maps and locate destinations. This in-field set of exercises is truly a hands-on learning experience. Ages 12 and up. Program meets in the Horine Reservation. Fee \$15 Per Person/ Per Class- Pre-Registration is required Min. participants-5 Max -15

TRAIL TEAM VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAY

Sat., November 14, 9 am – Noon at Jefferson Memorial Forest
Sat., November 21, 9 am – Noon at Waverly Park

Join our Trail Team volunteers as a single day helper or a long-term volunteer to work on our 36 miles of trail in the Forest and Waverly Park. Each project day will have a different task, assigned according to weather and greatest need. Suitable for ages 14 and up; must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Sherry.Wright@louisvilleky.gov for additional information.

FOX (FAMILIES OUTSIDE X-PLORING)

Saturday, November 21, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

FALL JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST

The leaves have almost all fallen and winter is soon to be here. The animals are preparing and storing their food. We will go in search of a variety of seeds that many animals need to survive the winter. What are some skills for us to survive the winter?

- How to make fire. Families will help to create a warm fire to make some yummy s'mores.

Bring water bottles, a snack and dress for the weather. We will be outside the whole time. Warning: You will get dirt on your shirt! Meets in the Horine Main Parking Lot.

Pre-Registration required. Fee: \$8/Family

FREE GUIDED HIKE – RED TRAIL

Saturday, November 21, 9:00 am

Hike the long loop in the Horine section with our volunteers. Trail is 4.8 miles and strenuous. Meet in the Horine Reservation parking lot.

December

LAND STEWARD VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAYS

Wednesdays, December 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 9 am – Noon

Saturday, December 5, 9 am - Noon

Join our Land Steward team for one day or as an ongoing volunteer. Participants aid in land management duties such as identifying and removing invasive plant species, identify and protect sensitive areas, seed collection, planting, gardening and watering. Each project day has a different task, determined by weather and need, and announced the week of the event. Suitable for ages 14 and up; must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Sherry.Wright@louisvilleky.gov

louisvilleky.gov for additional information.

TRAIL TEAM VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAY

Sat., December 12, 9 am – Noon at Jefferson Memorial Forest
Sat., December 19, 9 am – Noon at Waverly Park

Join our Trail Team volunteers as a single day helper or a long-term volunteer to work on our 36 miles of trail in the Forest and Waverly Park. Each project day will have a different task, assigned according to weather and greatest need. Suitable for ages 14 and up; must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Sherry.Wright@louisvilleky.gov for additional information.

FREE GUIDED HIKE – TBD BY POPULAR VOTE

Saturday, December 19, 9:00 am

Hikers will choose the trail based on popular opinion. Begin and end around the fire in our Welcome Center. Bring snacks (and recipes) to share if desired (not required).

FREE GUIDED HIKE – CAPERTON SWAMP

Friday, January 1, 9:00 am

Meet our volunteers at Caperton Swamp to hike this easy 0.9 mile trail and learn about our restoration efforts in this area. Meet at Caperton Swamp, 3916 River Road.

Bearcamp Road





LAND MANAGEMENT NOTES

Waverly Butterfly Meadow

In June, the Natural Areas Division Land Management team and numerous volunteers installed 2000 wildflower plugs in a half acre meadow adjacent to Waverly Park Lake. Our goal was to transform this area to a butterfly meadow where butterflies and other insects might congregate, feed, and breed and where visitors might enjoy seeing an abundance of beautiful insects. Most of us by now have heard news stories on the fragile existence of Monarch Butterflies and the pressures the species faces. Milkweed plants are the host plants for Monarch caterpillars. To that end, we have included several different milkweed species in our plant selection to benefit the Monarchs.

We have also planted an abundance of other wildflower species known to produce abundant nectar and attract butterflies of many types. Wildflower species which have been planted include: Common Milkweed, Butterfly Milkweed, Swamp Milkweed, False Blue Indigo, Smooth Blue Aster, New England Aster, Maryland Golden Aster, Purple Coneflower, Mist Flower, Ashy Sunflower, Bee Balm, Foxglove Beardtongue, Hairy Beardtongue, Slender

Visitors installing 2000 wildflower plugs at Waverly Park



Mountain Mint, Gray-Headed Coneflower, Orange Coneflower, Gray Goldenrod, Stiff Goldenrod, and Rough Goldenrod all obtained from a local native plant nursery.

We have also inter-planted numerous native grasses which work well in such a planting, not only adding to the diversity of the site but also helping to structurally support wildflowers which on their own might tend to fall over. With the ample rains this summer,

the young plants are getting a great start and we are looking forward to next summer when the wildflowers, butterflies, bees and other insects will put on a superb display for us to enjoy.

We would like to thank the Kannapell family for their generous donation of the wildflower plants as well as an interpretive panel which will be installed later this year. The Kannapell family adopted this project to honor the

memory of their mother, Anita, who was a teacher who loved the environment and especially loved to share her knowledge of nature with her students. Anita led outdoor excursions for Project ID, led nature hikes and taught about early American life at Black Acre nature preserve, taught science and environmental education for Wilder Elementary, ran an outdoor summer camp for Metro Parks, and led low and high ropes course activities at Jefferson Memorial Forest. The Kannapell families' generous gift will carry on Anita's joy of teaching others about the wonders of our natural world!

Bryan Lewis, Land Manager

Swamp Milkweed, a great plant to attract butterflies



LAND MANAGEMENT NOTES



Louisville Loop Art Project

In August, Louisville's Commission on Public Art (COPA) unveiled its first public art exhibit along the Louisville Loop at the Ohio River's edge near 10th Street. We'd like to acknowledge the efforts of Natural Areas' staff who are responsible for maintaining this portion of the Louisville Loop, particularly Chuck Hardin, Park Worker II and Matt Blankenship, Horticultural Worker I, for their role in making the unveiling a success. The exhibit, entitled "Connect/Disconnect" is temporary runs at through November 2015.



Clean-Up of New Forest Property

Thanks to the many volunteers as well as Forest staff who have helped clear newly acquired property near Keys Ferry Road of debris and invasive plants. Debris removal was supported by a \$5,000 grant from the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District. While leaf fall and winter rains will expose some additional debris to be removed, decades worth of material - including tires, old milk crates, and other miscellaneous debris from this former pig farm - has found a new home in the Outer Loop Landfill.





FOURTH ANNUAL Urban Wilderness Canoe Adventures

An Urban Wilderness Canoe Adventure is coming to Louisville! Join Metro Parks and our partners and canoe the Ohio River, taking off from both Riverview and Shawnee Parks. We will showcase the beauty of the great outdoors... in our own backyard!

Free trips will be conducted in safe and stable 24-foot Voyageurs, which hold 9 participants. Safety equipment and trained staff will be provided. Event is open to everyone 3 and older. Wear comfortable outdoor clothing that can get wet - no flip-flops. Ice water will be available, so bring a refillable water bottle. Food will be available for purchase.

Preregistration is not required. Trips are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, and will leave every 30 minutes. All participants must sign a waiver (see below); those under 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Shawnee Park

4501 West Broadway 40211

*At the end of Southwestern Pkwy
on the north side of the park*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Riverview Park

8202 Greenwood Rd 40258



**METRO PARKS
AND RECREATION**



**Wilderness
Inquiry**

www.wildernessinquiry.org



PROGRAM SPONSORED BY

**District 12 Metro Councilman
Rick Blackwell**

**District 5 Metro Councilwoman
Cheri Bryant Hamilton**

**District 1 Metro Councilwoman
Jessica Green**

**District 4 Metro Councilman
David Tandy**

**District 13 Metro Councilwoman
Vicki Aubrey Welch**

**District 14 Metro Councilwoman
Cindi Fowler**

**District 25 Metro Councilman
David Yates**





LOUISVILLE ECHO

Louisville ECHO Continues to Grow

Louisville ECHO is growing! ECHO, or “Engaging Children Outdoors” is the Forest’s grant funded initiative intended to get more kids outdoors for nature exploration, outdoor recreation, and environmental education. The ECHO program has a school-based curricular component and an out-of-school-time outdoor recreation component. Both components include a particular focus on youth in underserved communities, and both are expanding to serve even more kids.

The ECHO school program provides 4th grade classes in JCPS multiple field-based environmental science activities tied to the curriculum standards over the course of the school year at JMF, local parks, and Red River Gorge. The ECHO program began in 2008 with three schools, and has steadily grown with funding from the National Forest Service, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky, Louisville Metro Council, and Wilderness Louisville. This year additional funding from Metropolitan Sewer District allowed us to add a sixth school to the roster! Maupin Elementary in West Louisville was recently designated a JCPS School of Innovation, with a Waldorf-inspired curriculum. We are excited to continue to work with Maupin’s Assistant Principal Cabrina Bosco; Cabrina had been one of the ECHO teachers from the program’s inception. Maupin joins current ECHO schools Portland and Young Elementary in West Louisville; Cane Run Elementary in Southwest Louisville; Chenoweth Elementary in East Louisville; and Coral Ridge Elementary in Fairdale.

Addition of a new recreation-focused out-of-school-time component to ECHO was started in the summer of 2015 in coordination with Louisville Metro Parks and Recreation Community Centers and other community partners with funding support from the National Park Service through the Outdoor Foundation. It provides outdoor, nature-based recreation experiences in out-of-school time for underserved youth and this year we expanded to include Americana Community Center, Chestnut St. YMCA, Cabbage Patch Settlement House, Parkland Boys and Girls Club, and Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services as program partners. Youth from our partners have enjoyed rock climbing, archery, fishing, canoeing, climbing the Alpine Tower, hiking, and field trips to Red River Gorge. Moreover, ECHO’s focus on expanding opportunities for outdoor exploration extends to community events including West Louisville Appreciation Days in July and the Canoemobile each October.



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**METRO PARKS
AND RECREATION**

Greg Fischer, Mayor
Louisville Metro Council

Like the Forest
on Facebook:
facebook.com/jmfnaturalareas



NEW FOREST EMPLOYEES

This year the Forest has welcomed two new full-time staff.

David Grissom, who worked as a program seasonal this spring, joined us full time in September as Recreation Coordinator, heading up our teen camp and ECHO Recreation programs. Prior to working at JMF, David helped develop sustainability programs to reduce human impact and taught environmental education at Land between The Lakes. While attending Murray State University, where he graduated with honors with a degree in Outdoor Recreation, David discovered a passion for backpacking and rock climbing. He was awarded Outstanding Recreation Senior within his department.



Matthew Calloway joined our maintenance crew in March as a Park Worker II. Matt is from Elizabethtown, Kentucky and also spent several years with the Parks and Recreation Department in the city of Burnsville, Minnesota.



Metro Parks
www.metro-parks.org

Forest/Parks Natural Areas Staff

Bennett Knox
Parks Administrator

Rebecca Minnick
Public Education Manager

Brian Lewis
Land Manager

Sherry Wright
Guest Services Supervisor

Larry Hilton
Naturalist/Trails Supervisor

Andrea Clark
Guest Services Specialist

Matt Douthitt
Naturalist/Programs

Jim Carpenter
Maintenance Supervisor

Christa Weidner
Naturalist/Programs

Ryan Zike
Rec Coordinator/Programs